

## Message Text

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63

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 DRC-01 /097 W

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R 291745Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7541

UNCLAS BRIDGETOWN 1318

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT DO

SUBJ: LEBLANC RESIGNS AS DOMINICA'S PREMIER

REF: BRIDGETOWN 1218

1. ACCORDING TO A NEWS AGENCY REPORT, EDWARD LEBLANC RESIGNED AS PREMIER OF DOMINICA ON JULY 26. IN ADDITION TO RESIGNING HIS POST AS CHIEF OF THE GOVERNMENT, WHICH HE HAS HELD SINCE DOMINICA BECAME AN ASSOCIATED STATE IN 1967, LEBLANC ALSO RESIGNED FROM HIS SEAT IN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

2. DEPUTY PREMIER PATRICK ROLAND JOHN SUCCEEDS LEBLANC AS PREMIER. JOHN, WHO IS 37, DEFEATED FORMER DEPUTY PREMIER RONALD ARMOUR AT THE ANNUAL PARTY CONVENTION ON JULY 14 TO TAKE OVER THE LABOR PARTY LEADERSHIP AFTER LEBLANC STEPPED DOWN AS HEAD OF THE PARTY FOR 14 YEARS.

3. COMMENT: THE MOST SERIOUS IMMEDIATE CHALLENGE TO HOHN, REPUTED TO BE STRONG ON LAW AND ORDER ISSUES, IS THE DISAFFECTION OF THE DOMINICAN LABOR UNIONS WHICH SINCE 1970 HAVE PROGRESSIVELY WITHDRAWN THEIR SUPPORT FROM THE LEBLANC GOVERNMENT BECAUSE OF THE LATTER'S FAILURE TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC PROGRESS. THE DOMINICA TRADE UNION, DOMINICA AMALGAMATED WORKERS UNION, WATERFRONT AND ALLIED WORKERS UNION, AND THE CIVIL SERVICE ASSOCIATION HAVE ALREADY ANNOUNCED THAT EACH UNION SHOULD SEEK TO FIELD A CANDIDATE.

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CANDIDATE OR CANDIDATES IN THE GENERAL ELECTIONS DUE TO BE HELD

NEXT YEAR. THE FIELD LABOR UNIONS MAY POSSIBLY FORCE JOHN'S GOVERNMENT TO HOLD THE GENERAL ELECTIONS BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PARTY LEADERS, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS, PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, LABOR UNIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 29 JUL 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** BRIDGETOWN 1218  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** shawdg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 OCT 2002  
**Review Event:**  
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**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** LEBLANC RESIGNS AS DOMINICA'S PREMIER  
**TAGS:** PINT, DO, DOMINICA LABOR PARTY, (LEBLANC, EDWARD)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005